

HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE PRECINCT
MEETING
February 9, 2011

Present

Gary Kubik, Chairman & Commissioner
Chuck Rage, Commissioner
June White, Commissioner
John Gebhart, Treasurer

Chairman Kubik called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Kubik introduced the members of the Board.

Bench Update

Ed St. Pierre said he had problems with the grant application because the Precinct is not a charity. Commissioner Rage said Precinct Counsel is working on this problem, but it could take up to two years.

Mr. St. Pierre said he had done an assessment at the state park after the first of the year. He said he intends to repair as many benches as he can. Mr. Pierre discussed the bench with the plaque honoring Jack Knox. The Commissioners said they are very much for pursuing this project.

Mr. St. Pierre announced that he will be a write-in candidate for the Zoning Board of Adjustment and asked for everyone's support.

Entertainment

Glenn French, Entertainment Coordinator, said he has been working on the calendar and program for the upcoming season. Mr. French said he had reviewed a plot plan for the temporary stage. It is 85 feet from the southwest toward the berm across from C Street. This seems reasonable and should work. There had been discussion about going further south because of the fireworks. Commissioner Rage said Warren from American Thunder said he can compensate.

Mr. French said another issue is parking for the performing artists. This will need to be addressed with the new Operations Supervisor.

Marketing Update

John Kane, Marketing Director, said he needs to have all event dates as soon as possible in order for them to be included in publications.

Mr. Kane said he had received a letter from Stephanie Lucier, coordinator for the Miss Hampton Beach and Little Miss Hampton Beach Contests, saying that the State is going to charge an extra \$350 fee for stage use and will require a \$1 million liability insurance. Commissioner Rage said the Precinct pays for the stage insurance so this would not be an issue. Mr. Kane said the Miss Hampton Beach Contest has been going on for 65 years and now there is a possibility that it would have to be cancelled due to this extra fee from the State. Commissioner White said there are also going to be more fees for the Movies on the Beach events.

Mr. Kane said the completion of the gaming hall is getting closer. It will be called Ocean Gaming. There will be an open house at the Ashworth on Saturday, February 12th for people looking for jobs. This operation will be year-round and should be an asset to the beach.

Beautification

Linda Gebhart said she will be working with the Science teacher at Winnacunnet again this year for the starting of seeds.

Ms. Gebhart discussed important voting dates which are posted on the website. Open positions are: Commissioner 3 years, Treasurer 1 year, Clerk 1 year, Moderator 1 year, and Supervisor of the Checklist 1 year. For absentee ballots and any other questions, contact Ms. Gebhart at 929-3850.

Geannina Guzman-Scanlan discussed the arts budget. She said the committee is considering having some sort of sculpture around the Seashell. Proposals are in and the committee will review. Ms. Scanlan said she wanted to bring back the idea that the Beautification Committee has a broader program than just flowers. Ms. Scanlan also suggested having a Garden Day at the beach.

Old Business

Commissioner Rage said the Commissioners attended a Selectmen's meeting and talked about the exemption for residential property. It was decided that this form would be available on the beach website and the Town website. It will not be mailed to residents except for those out of town. The deadline for submission of this form is April 1st.

Commissioner Rage asked for support on the warrant article to stop the spread of martial arts weapons and also for the warrant article for the two fire stations. Everyone needs to get out and vote.

New Business

Commissioner Kubik said the Commissioners will be meeting with the Budget Committee on February 15th regarding the budget. He then asked for a vote approving the proposed budget.

Moved by Commissioner Rage, seconded by Commissioner White, to approve the Village Precinct proposed operating budget of \$496,950.

Vote: 3-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner White said the Commissioners have been looking for a full-time Events Coordinator for the Beach. This person will be responsible for working on all events currently in place as well as bringing new events. This person will report to the Commissioners at every monthly meeting. Commissioner White said a lot of applications had been received for this position and six people were interviewed and Liz O'Connell was selected. Commissioner White introduced Ms. O'Connell.

Moved by Commissioner White, seconded by Chairman Kubik, to hire Liz O'Connell for the position of Events Coordinator on the condition that the voters approve this at the Annual Meeting in March.

Vote: 3-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. O'Connell thanked the Commissioners and said she was very excited to work with everyone.

Public Comment

Tim Jones, 16 Dustin Avenue, asked why the amount for General Government in this year's budget is half of what it was last year. Commissioner Rage replied that last year the Event Coordinator salary was included.

Mr. Jones asked why the amount for the temporary stage was not listed in General Government. Commissioner Rage said this was because it is temporary and there will be sponsorships for this.

Mr. Jones expressed concern that there is not enough discussion on the budget items in a public forum. Richard Reniere, Moderator, responded that the approval of the budget is accomplished at the Annual Meeting where all are invited to attend. Mr. Jones also asked for clarification on what the law requires for a quorum. Commissioner Rage said the Commissioners would check with counsel on this matter and to make sure everything is being done in the proper manner.

Ms. Scanlan said she felt a forum for longer questions, etc. is needed. She suggested a public hearing.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Rage, seconded by Chairman Kubik, to approve the Minutes of January 19, 2011.

Vote: 2-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Closing Comments

There were no closing comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Rage **moved**, seconded by Chairman Kubik, that the meeting be adjourned.

Vote: 2-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary